## NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

APRIL 10 - 16, 2022

Every year during the second week of April, the telecommunications personnel in the public safety community are honored.

This week-long event, initially set up in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in California, is a time to celebrate and thank those who dedicate their lives to serving the public.

This week should be set aside to lift up, encourage, show support, shine a light, acknowledge, and serve those that serve every community, department, agency, agency, and citizen!

No act is too small. Take a moment to thank those in your agencies Dispatch Center - some and/or ideas:

- → Pay for a yoga class in a local center/gym to allow each Dispatcher to attend when they have time - yoga = relaxing!
- ★ Ask a local yoga teacher or video meditation teacher to provide a class - (may do it for free!)
- ★ Take each Dispatcher to a lunch/dinner/ breakfast individually and talk about their goals, opportunities, why they are a Dispatcher, their best/worst call.
- ★ Take 10 minutes and just listen to them; hear their concerns, wins, etc. Let them know they are worth your time.
- ★ Let all the Dispatchers park in the from/special/ officers spots!
- ★ ASK THEM what makes them feel appreciated!!



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- ★ If you are not a part of their agency:
  - bake cookies
  - drop off sonic drinks
  - Starbucks/Sonic/Chick-Fil-A/Apple iTunes/ Google Play giftcards
  - Surprise flowers

## ★ Gift Baskets with:

- Lip balm
- Advil/Tylenol
- Gum
- Small candies
- Lotion
- Hand sanitizer
- Phone chargers from five below (\$5.00)
- Gift cards
- Hand written notes
- Dispatcher Stickers (<u>etsy.com</u>)
- Tumblers
- Funky socks

The goal is to give some extra attention - no gift is too small. Think BIG, think FUN, think about and give what you would want to receive. Your time is the best gift. Dispatchers are the FIRST, First Responders, they answer the call and not only help the citizens, but they guide and assist officers, fire, and medical response. Take a moment to add some thought into saying thank you to Oklahoma Telecommunicators!



A person who knows they are appreciated, will always do more than asked or expected.